

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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TO: Honey Beekeepers and Suppliers

FROM: Kim Skyrn, Ph.D., Chief Apiary Inspector, MDAR Apiary Program

REGARDING: 2023 Live Honey Bee and Used Equipment Shipments into Massachusetts

DATE: February 1st, 2023

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources ("Department") would like to remind you that as a beekeeper or a beekeeping supplier pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 128, Sections 32-36B, 38](#) and [330 CMR 8.00](#) (newly amended), all imported honey bee packages, nucleus colonies (nucs), colonies, and used equipment ("Shipment") brought into the state of Massachusetts must have a proper state-issued health certificate ("Certificate") including at least one health inspection ("Inspection") dated within 60 days prior to transport. It is also required that you do the following to be in regulatory compliance:

- Notify the Department no less than two business days prior to each Shipment import,
- Provide destination information (within Massachusetts) for each Shipment,
- Submit a copy of the Shipment Certificate to the Department;
- Keep records regarding the sale of the Shipment items; and
- Pursuant to [M.G.L. c. 132B](#), provide the pesticide product label to customers who are purchasing nucs which contain visible miticides so they are aware of proper treatment, handling and disposal.

The contents of a Certificate can vary by state, and thus be sure to also include the following information with your submission of documentation:

- Beekeeper or Beekeeping Supplier name and contact information,
- Address of Shipment origin,
- Date of import,
- Date of Inspection from state of origin, and
- Imported Shipment totals (i.e. packages, nucs, colonies, or used equipment).

Notification and Certificates can be submitted either electronically using the [Shipment Notification of Honey Bees and Beekeeping Equipment](#) online form or hardcopy by mail to:

*MA Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR)
ATTN: Kim Skyrn, MDAR Chief Apiary Inspector
138 Memorial Ave, Suite 42
West Springfield, MA 01089*

For further questions, refer to the [Transporting and Selling Honey Bees and Related Products in The Commonwealth FAQ](#) or contact Kim Skyrn, Ph.D. at (857) 319-1020; email kim.skyrm@mass.gov.